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DOE Secretary to meet with Northwest energy community

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Bonneville Power Administration

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PORTLAND, Ore. – U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Bill Richardson will meet with representatives of the Northwest energy community on Sept. 9 at the Bonneville Power Administration headquarters. He will brief the media at 12:20 p.m.

"The Secretary wants to discuss Northwest energy issues with the people who know them best," said BPA Administrator Judi Johansen. The Secretary is coming to Portland to participate in a nation-wide Y2K drill, tour the four lower Snake River hydroelectric dams and meet with employees and community members.

The meeting with the Northwest energy community begins at 11:30 a.m. in room 122 and is open to the media. Electricity restructuring and Northwest energy issues are expected to be on the agenda at the meeting. The BPA headquarters is located at 905 NE 11th Ave. in Portland.

BPA is the largest power marketing administration under the Department of Energy with over 15,000 circuit miles of high-voltage transmission lines that span 300,000 square miles in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana. BPA markets hydroelectric power from 29 federal dams in the Columbia River Basin. Its customers include publicly owned and investor-owned utilities, as well as some large industries.

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